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Board of Trustees December 2, 1970

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UNIVERSITY OF MAINE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Gorham, Maine
December 2, 1970

APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Date 2/4/71
By: JoAnne R. Magill, Clerk

Ad hoc committee on faculty relations

PRESENT: Chairman, N. Y. Wessell, H. R. Brown, W. G. Robertson; L. M. Cutler, A. H. Benoit. D. R. McNeil, S. L. Freeman and Clerk, J. R. Magill.

Chairman Wessell convened the meeting.

The committee was meeting formally for the first time since it was established by the Board in June to study the broad area of faculty relations. The Chairman of the Board had charged the committee to define its own objectives, and this session was devoted to a discussion of the numerous complexities involved in tenure policies and questions of faculty responsibility and accountability, in an attempt to clarify the proper function of the committee and to determine the specific role it should play.

No uniform policies have been adopted for the system since the merger and under present practice, each Campus develops procedures and guidelines for personnel matters which are evaluated by the Chancellor's Office before presentation to the Board for final approval. It was suggested that the committee might want to establish some principles and criteria to provide guidance and direction to the Campuses in the decision-making processes, rather than confine the Board's involvement to review and possible veto of the final recommendations.

Dr. Wessell thought that the Board should not prescribe specific qualifications but should ascertain that the individuals who make the judgments and measure the qualifications follow policies acceptable to and approved by the Board. Dr. Brown pointed out that there would be a need for some diversification of criteria to reflect the unique requirements of the individual Campuses.

Dr. Freeman reported that Orono is operating under policies recently approved by the Board and that all other Campuses are in the process of developing procedures with progress reports due in January. It was agreed that the committee would wait for these reports. Meanwhile, the Chancellor will initiate further discussion in the Administrative Council and the staff will gather additional information to facilitate the committee's deliberations.

Adjournment

JoAnne R. Magill
JoAnne R. Magill
Clerk, Board of Trustees